

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION  
OF THE STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA**

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF )  
TOTALTEL, INC. FOR A CERTIFICATE OF )  
AUTHORITY TO PROVIDE )  
TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICES IN )  
SOUTH DAKOTA )

**ORDER GRANTING  
CERTIFICATE OF  
AUTHORITY**

**TC97-187**

On November 25, 1997, the Public Utilities Commission (Commission), in accordance with SDCL 49-31-3 and ARSD 20:10:24:02, received an application for a certificate of authority from TotalTel, Inc. (TotalTel).

TotalTel proposes to offer 1+ direct dialing, 800 toll free, and travel card (no prepaid calling cards) service. A proposed tariff was filed by TotalTel. The Commission has classified long distance service as fully competitive.

On December 4, 1997, the Commission electronically transmitted notice of the filing and the intervention deadline of December 19, 1997, to interested individuals and entities. No petitions to intervene or comments were filed and at its regularly scheduled April 9, 1998, meeting, the Commission considered TotalTel's request for a certificate of authority. Commission Staff recommended granting a certificate of authority, subject to the condition that TotalTel not offer a prepaid calling card or require deposits or advance payments without prior approval of the Commission.

The Commission finds that it has jurisdiction over this matter pursuant to Chapter 49-31, specifically 49-31-3 and ARSD 20:10:24:02 and 20:10:24:03. The Commission finds that TotalTel has met the legal requirements established for the granting of a certificate of authority. TotalTel has, in accordance with SDCL 49-31-3, demonstrated sufficient technical, financial and managerial capabilities to offer telecommunications services in South Dakota. The Commission approves TotalTel's application for a certificate of authority, subject to the condition that TotalTel not offer a prepaid calling card or require deposits or advance payments without prior approval of the Commission. As the Commission's final decision in this matter, it is therefore

ORDERED, that TotalTel's application for a certificate of authority is hereby granted, subject to the condition that TotalTel not offer a prepaid calling card or require deposits or advance payments without prior approval of the Commission. It is

FURTHER ORDERED, that TotalTel shall file informational copies of tariff changes with the Commission as the changes occur.

Dated at Pierre, South Dakota, this 17<sup>th</sup> day of April, 1998.

**CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

The undersigned hereby certifies that this document has been served today upon all parties of record in this docket, as listed on the docket service list, by first class mail, in properly addressed envelopes, with charges prepaid thereon.

By: Helaine Kaelo

Date: 4/17/98

(OFFICIAL SEAL)

**BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:**

James A. Burg  
JAMES A. BURG, Chairman

Pam Nelson  
PAM NELSON, Commissioner

Laska Schoenfelder  
LASKA SCHOENFELDER, Commissioner